

**PATIENT PACKAGE INSERT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE
PHARMACISTS' REGULATIONS (PREPARATIONS) - 1986**

The medicine is dispensed with a doctor's prescription only

**PIRON 801
Tablets**

Composition:

Each tablet contains:
pirfenidone 801 mg

**PIRON 267
Tablets**

Each tablet contains:
pirfenidone 267 mg

For the list of inactive ingredients and allergens in this medicine see section 2 under 'Important information about some of this medicine's ingredients', and section 6 'Additional information'.

Read this leaflet in its entirety before using the medicine. This leaflet contains concise information about this medicine. If you have any further questions, consult your doctor or pharmacist. Keep this leaflet; you may need to read it again. This medicine has been prescribed to treat your illness. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if it seems to you that their ailment is similar.

1. WHAT IS THIS MEDICINE INTENDED FOR?

Piron contains the active ingredient *pirfenidone* and is used for the treatment of mild to moderate Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis (IPF) in adults.

Therapeutic group:

Piron is an immunosuppressant.

Idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis is a condition in which the lung tissues become swollen and scarred over time and as a result, it is difficult to breathe deeply. This makes it hard for the lungs to function properly. **Piron** helps to reduce scarring and swelling in the lungs, and helps you breathe better.

2. BEFORE USING THIS MEDICINE

Do not use the medicine if:

- you are sensitive (allergic) to the active ingredient pirfenidone or to any of the other ingredients in this medicine which are mentioned in section 2 under 'Important information about some of this medicine's ingredients', and section 6 'Additional information'.
- you have previously experienced angioedema with pirfenidone, including symptoms such as swelling of the face, lips and/or tongue which may be associated with breathing difficulties or wheezing.
- you are taking a medicine called fluvoxamine (used to treat depression and obsessive compulsive disorder).
- you have a severe or end-stage liver disease.
- you have a severe or end-stage kidney disease requiring dialysis.

If any of the aforementioned conditions apply to you, do not use **Piron**. If you are unsure, consult the attending doctor or pharmacist.

Special warnings about using this medicine:

Before taking Piron, tell your doctor if:

- You may become more sensitive to sunlight (photosensitivity reaction) when taking **Piron**. Avoid exposure to the sun (including tanning lamps) while taking **Piron**. Use a sunscreen daily and cover your arms, legs and head to reduce exposure to sunlight (see section 4 'Side effects').
- Do not take other medicines such as tetracycline antibiotics (e.g., doxycycline), which may make you more sensitive to sunlight.
- Inform your doctor if you suffer from kidney problems.
- Inform your doctor if you suffer from mild to moderate liver problems.
- You should stop smoking before and during treatment with **Piron**. Smoking cigarettes may reduce the effect of the medicine.
- **Piron** may cause dizziness and tiredness. Exercise caution when performing activities for which you have to be alert and functioning.
- **Piron** can cause weight loss. Your doctor will monitor your weight while you are taking the medicine.
- Stevens-Johnson syndrome and toxic epidermal necrolysis, and drug reaction with eosinophilia and systemic symptoms (DRESS) have been reported in association with **Piron** treatment. Stop using **Piron** and seek medical attention immediately if you notice any of the symptoms related to the serious skin reactions described in section 4 'Side effects'.

Smoking

You should stop smoking before and during the treatment with **Piron**. Smoking cigarettes may reduce the effect of the medicine.

Children and adolescents

This medicine is not intended for children and adolescents below the age of 18.

Tests and follow-up

Piron may cause severe liver problems and some cases have been fatal. You will need to undergo a blood test before you start taking the medicine, once a month for the first six months of treatment and once every three months thereafter while taking this medicine, in order to check that your liver is functioning properly. It is important that you undergo these routine blood tests for as long as you are taking **Piron**.

Interactions with other medicines

If you are taking or have recently taken other medicines, including non-prescription medicines and dietary supplements, tell your doctor or pharmacist.

In particular, inform the doctor or pharmacist if you are taking the following medicines, since they may alter the effect of **Piron**.

Medicines that may increase the side effects of **Piron**:

- enoxacin (a certain type of antibiotic)
- ciprofloxacin (a certain type of antibiotic)
- amiodarone (used to treat certain types of heart disease)
- propafenone (used to treat certain types of heart disease)
- fluvoxamine (used to treat depression and obsessive compulsive disorder)

Medicines that may reduce the effectiveness of the medicine:

- omeprazole (for the treatment of conditions such as indigestion and gastroesophageal reflux)
- rifampicin (a certain type of antibiotic)

Use of the medicine and food

Swallow the tablets with water, with or after a meal, to reduce side effects such as nausea and dizziness (see section 4 'Side effects').

Do not drink grapefruit juice during treatment with **Piron**. Grapefruit juice may prevent **Piron** from working properly.

Pregnancy, breast-feeding and fertility

As a precautionary measure, it is preferable to avoid using **Piron** if you are pregnant, planning a pregnancy or think you may be pregnant, since the potential risks to the fetus are unknown.

If you are breast-feeding, or plan to breast-feed, inform the doctor or pharmacist before taking **Piron**. It is not known whether the medicine passes into breast milk.

In case you decide to breast-feed, the doctor will discuss with you the risks and benefits of taking the medicine while breast-feeding.

Driving and using machines

Do not drive or operate machinery if you feel dizzy or tired after taking **Piron**.

Important information about some of this medicine's ingredients

Piron contains lactose. If you have been told by your doctor that you have an intolerance to certain sugars, consult your doctor before taking this medicine.

3. HOW TO USE THIS MEDICINE?

Always use this medicine according to your doctor's instructions. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure about your dose and how you should take this medicine.

A specialist physician experienced in the diagnosis and treatment of idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis will decide on starting treatment with **Piron** and will monitor the treatment.

The dosage and treatment regimen will be determined by the doctor only. The usual dosage is generally:

The medicine will usually be given to you in increasing dosages as follows:

- for the first 7 days of treatment: take a dose of 267 mg, 3 times a day with a meal (a total of 801 mg/day)
- from day 8 to day 14: take a dose of 534 mg (two units of **Piron 267**), 3 times a day with a meal (a total of 1602 mg/day)
- from day 15 onwards (maintenance dosage): take 801 mg 3 times a day with a meal (a total of 2403 mg/day)

The usual daily maintenance dosage of **Piron** is 801 mg (one **Piron 801** tablet), 3 times a day with a meal, a total of 2403 mg/day.

Swallow the tablet with water, during or after a meal, to reduce the risk of side effects such as nausea and dizziness. Refer to your doctor if symptoms continue.

If necessary, the tablet may be halved for immediate use. There is no information about crushing or chewing the tablet.

Do not exceed the recommended dose.

Dosage reduction due to side effects:

The doctor may reduce the dosage if you suffer from side effects such as abdominal problems, skin reactions to sunlight or tanning lamps, or significant changes in liver enzymes.

If you have accidentally taken a higher dose

If you took an overdose or if a child has accidentally swallowed the medicine, refer immediately to a doctor, a pharmacist or proceed to a hospital emergency room and bring the package with you.

If you forget to take the medicine

If you forget to take the medicine at the required time, take it as soon as you remember, but separate each dose by at least 3 hours.

Do not take a double dose to compensate for the forgotten one.

Adhere to the treatment as recommended by the doctor.

If you stop taking this medicine

In certain situations, the doctor will advise you to stop taking **Piron**.

If for any reason you have to stop taking **Piron** for more than 14 consecutive days, the doctor will restart treatment with **Piron 267** and will instruct you to first take 1 unit 3 times a day, and will then gradually increase the dosage to 801 mg, 3 times a day.

Do not take medicines in the dark! Check the label and the dose every time you take medicine. Wear glasses if you need them.

If you have further questions about using this medicine, consult your doctor or pharmacist.

4. SIDE EFFECTS

As with any medicine, using **Piron** may cause side effects in some users. Do not be alarmed by the list of side effects. You may not suffer from any of them.

Stop taking Piron and seek medical attention immediately if you notice any of the following signs or symptoms:

- swelling of the face, lips and/or tongue, itching, urticaria, breathing difficulties or wheezing, or fainting sensation, which are signs of angioedema, a severe allergic reaction or anaphylaxis.
- yellowing of the eyes or skin, dark urine, which may also be accompanied by itching of the skin, pain in the upper right side of the abdomen, loss of appetite, bleeding or bruising more easily than in the past, or feeling tired. These may be signs of impaired liver function and can indicate liver injury, which is an uncommon side effect of **Piron**.
- reddish non-elevated, or circular patches on the trunk, often with central blisters, skin peeling, ulcers of mouth, throat, nose, genitals and eyes. These serious skin rashes can be preceded by fever and flu-like symptoms [Stevens-Johnson syndrome or toxic epidermal necrolysis].
- Widespread rash, high body temperature and enlarged lymph nodes (a syndrome called DRESS syndrome or drug hypersensitivity syndrome).

Additional side effects:

Inform the doctor if you experience any side effect.

Very common side effects (may affect more than 1 in 10 patients):

- infections of the throat or the airways going into the lungs and/or sinusitis
- feeling sick (nausea)
- stomach problems such as acid reflux, vomiting, and feeling constipated
- diarrhea
- indigestion or abdominal pain
- weight loss
- decreased appetite
- difficulty sleeping
- tiredness
- dizziness
- headache
- shortness of breath
- cough
- aching joints/joint pains

Common side effects (may affect up to 1 in 10 patients):

- bladder infections
- feeling sleepy
- changes in sense of taste
- hot flushes
- stomach problems, such as feeling bloated, abdominal pain and discomfort, heartburn, and passing wind
- blood tests that may show increased levels of liver enzymes
- skin reactions after going out in the sun or using tanning lamps
- skin problems, such as itching, skin redness, red skin, dry skin and skin rash
- muscle pain
- feeling weak or feeling low in energy
- chest pain
- sunburns

Uncommon side effects (may affect up to 1 in 100 patients):

- low blood sodium level which may cause headache, dizziness, confusion, weakness, muscle cramps or nausea and vomiting.
- blood tests which may show a decrease in white blood cells

If a side effect occurs, if one of the side effects worsens, or if you suffer from a side effect not mentioned in this leaflet, consult with the doctor.

Reporting side effects

Side effects can be reported to the Ministry of Health by clicking on the link '[Reporting Side Effects of Drug Treatment](#)' found on the Ministry of Health home page (www.health.gov.il), which directs to the online form for reporting side effects, or by entering the link: <https://sideeffects.health.gov.il> Additionally, you can report to "[Unipharm Ltd](#)".

5. HOW SHOULD THE MEDICINE BE STORED?

- Prevent poisoning! This medicine, and any other medicine, should be kept in a closed place out of the reach and sight of children and/or infants in order to avoid poisoning. Do not induce vomiting unless explicitly instructed to do so by the doctor.
- Do not use the medicine after the expiry date (exp. date) that appears on the package. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.
- Store below 25°C and in a place protected from light.

6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

In addition to the active ingredient, the medicine also contains:

For **Piron 267**:

Microcrystalline cellulose, lactose, povidone, croscarmellose sodium, magnesium stearate, colloidal silica dioxide, Opadry white Y-1-7000.

For **Piron 801**:

Microcrystalline cellulose, lactose, povidone, croscarmellose sodium, magnesium stearate, colloidal silica dioxide, Opadry OY 3569 orange.

What the medicine looks like and the contents of the package:

Piron 267 are white, oblong, biconvex coated tablets.

Piron 801 are orange, oval, biconvex coated tablets, with a score line on one side.

The tablets are packaged in blisters (trays), inserted into a carton package.

Each package of **Piron** has 84 or 90 tablets.

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

Registration holder and address: Unipharm Ltd., P.O.B. 16545, Tel Aviv 6116401.

Manufacturer and address: Unipharm Ltd., Mevo Carmel Industrial Park.

Registration numbers of the medicine in the National Drug Registry of the Ministry of Health:

Piron 267: 174-74-36847-99

Piron 801: 174-38-36848-99

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